Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Tuesday 05 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Wednesday 06 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Monday 04 Dec 2023 at 12:21

Confidence: High for a return to milder, unsettled conditions from mid-week. Medium in details.

Headline for Tuesday 05 Dec 2023: Rain and snow dying out. Some bright spells developing. Severe wind chill over the summits.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 05 Dec 2023

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Mist	Cloudy	Sunny intervals	Clear night	Clear night
Precipitation probability							
80%	60%	50%	30%	20%	10%	<05%	<05%

Forecast for Tuesday 05 Dec 2023

Weather: Outbreaks of rain and snow overnight and early morning, snow mainly above 600m with temporary blizzard conditions and drifting over the summits. The rain and snow dying out during the morning with bright or sunny spells for a time in the afternoon. Clear spells in the evening with a frost developing.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20% overnight and early morning rising to 80% in the afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud, base around 600m, the cloud lifting and clearing in the afternoon. Visibility moderate to very poor in early rain, snow and cloud, becoming mainly very good by the afternoon.

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Forecast for Tuesday 05 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	25/31 NE	26/33 NE	26/33 NE	27/34 NE	24/30 NE	17/22 NE	12/16 NE	10/13 E	10/14 E
600	18/25 NE	18/25 NE	19/25 NE	19/26 NE	16/23 NE	13/18 NE	9/14 NE	8/11 E	10/15 E
300	7/21 NE	7/21 N	8/22 NE	8/22 NE	9/20 NE	6/16 NE	6/13 NE	5/8 E	5/10 E
Valley	12/26 NE	12/27 NE	13/28 NE	12/26 NE	13/24 NE	11/20 NE	9/14 NE	5/8 NE	5/10 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-9	-2/-9	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-8	-3/-8	-3/-8	-3/-8
600	0/-6	0/-6	-0/-6	-0/-6	0/-6	-0/-5	-2/-6	-2/-6	-2/-6
300	2/-1	2/-1	2/-2	2/-2	3/-1	2/-1	-0/-3	-1/-3	-1/-4
Valley	4/1	4/0	4/-0	4/0	5/1	5/1	3/-1	2/-1	1/-1
Freezing Level*	700m	700m	600m	600m	600m	600m	400m	400m	400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Continuation of winter hazards at height, although snow dying out and winds gradually easing.

Forecast for Wednesday 06 Dec 2023

Weather: Patchy freezing fog possible in the valleys overnight, otherwise clear with a widespread frost. Dry and bright during daylight hours, any freezing fog slow to clear and the sunshine turning hazy. Strengthening winds and lowering cloud around dusk, then outbreaks of rain and snow in the evening. Snow mainly above 600m, but could be heavy with blizzard conditions. Heavy rain also likely lower down.

Maximum wind: Southeast 20mph, increasing 30mph gusts 45mph in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 90% overnight and much of daylight hours, but lowering 20% or less in the evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Nil significant cloud overnight and much of daylight hours, but becoming extensive, base 600m or less in the evening. Mostly good or very good, becoming moderate to very poor in the evening.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 3 Celsius rising to plus 4 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 5 Celsius, later Minus 2 Celsius
Freezing level: All levels at first, gradually rising to around 600m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Monday 4 December 2023 Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:42 Full report: A wild day on the higher fells with strong winds and near whiteout conditions on Helvellyn's summit plateau. Rain at low levels turned to sleet and snow above roughly 600m. Slightly milder temperatures and rain are beginning to slowly thaw the snow, ice, and frozen ground below 700m resulting in very slippery ground. Walking poles and microspikes are advisable. The snowline has lifted to approximately 600m and depth generally increases with height. Ankle deep would be an approximate average with drifts around 1 metre deep not uncommon. Paths are completely covered in many places on Helvellyn's summit plateau making route finding and navigation very challenging. Footprints from other walkers were filled in in a matter of minutes today and do not make for reliable route finding. Fresh unstable cornices are present and building around north and east-facing corrie rims and potentially unstable windslab may also be present in these locations and on slopes with a similar slope aspect and angle. These areas should be given a wide berth. With subzero temperatures and the potential for further snowfall overnight, anyone heading out tomorrow should anticipate full winter conditions and be suitably clothed and equipped. Warm and waterproof clothing (plus spare warm layers), hats and gloves, a map, compass, headtorch, and goggles (for navigating in windy conditions) are all essential. As previously mentioned, microspikes and walking poles are very useful and crampons and an ice axe should be carried if attempting routes over steep and exposed ground. Temperature: minus 0.9 C, Maximum wind speed 42.2 mph, Wind chill: minus 10.9 C, Average wind speed: 30.1 mph

Issued at: 1221 on Mon 04 Dec 2023

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